GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:783
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2001
POWER PROJECT OF NTPC, SIPAT
PUNNULAL MOHALE

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the NTPC project of Sipat, district Bilaspur, Chattisgarh is according tothe prescribed terms regarding environmental effects on Bilaspur, presentation of comprehensive rehabilitation scheme and the required no objection of respective pollution control board for changes in 660 megawatt units;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether final environmental clearance has been granted in respect of these presentations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA)

(a) to (d) : National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) applied for obtainingenvironmental clearance in respect of Sipat Super Thermal Power Project Stage-I (4x500 MW) to Ministry of Environment and Forests (MOE&F) as per the existing rules andregulations after submitting Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report andobtaining `No Objection` certificate from Madhya Pradesh Pollution Control Board.It was indicated in the application by NTPC that the comprehensive rehabilitation planwould be finalized in consultation with the State Government after completion of the detailed socio-economic study to assess the affected population due to land acquisition. NTPC also made a presentation bringing out all the details of the EIA to the Expert Committee of MOE&F.

MOE&F accorded site clearance to the project in January, 1998 based onsite visit, the documents submitted along with the application and presentation by NTPC.

MOE&F accorded environmental clearance to the project in February,1999. The clearance was, however, stayed due to non-compliance of clearance conditions regarding rehabilitation plan and green belt development. The required details were furnished to MOE&F by NTPC and the stay on clearance was later vacated in January, 2000.

The modification pertaining to change in configuration from 500 MW to660 MW has been submitted to MOE&F by NTPC for clearance.

NTPC prepared a comprehensive Rehabilitation Action Plan (RAP) andhis was reviewed by Rehabilitation Committee constituted by the Collector, Bilaspur. This RAP was recommended for approval by the Rehabilitation Committee after detaileddiscussions with Village Development Advisory Committee, District Administration and the representatives of Project Affected Persons. The RAP was, thereafter, approved by the Collector, Bilaspur in August, 2000 and by MOE&F in December, 2000.